

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:

1. A two-part sizing composition for sizing a reinforcing fiber material comprising:

 a size composition; and

 a binder composition including a copolymer or a derivative thereof, said copolymer being formed from maleic anhydride and at least one other monomer copolymerizable therewith selected from the group consisting of butadiene and ethylene-ethylacrylate.
2. The two-part sizing composition according to claim 1, wherein the copolymer is selected from the group consisting of a maleic anhydride-butadiene copolymer and a maleic anhydride-butadiene copolymer partial ammonium salt.
3. The two-part sizing composition according to claim 1, wherein said binder composition further includes at least one other copolymer formed from maleic anhydride and at least one other monomer copolymerizable therewith selected from the group consisting of ethylene, propylene, (iso)butylene, methyl vinyl ether and derivatives thereof.
4. The two-part sizing composition according to claim 1, wherein said size composition comprises one or more coupling agents.

5. The two-part sizing composition according to claim 4, wherein said size composition further comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of a lubricant and a wetting agent.
6. The two-part sizing composition according to claim 5, wherein said binder composition further includes one or more members selected from the group consisting of a film forming agent, a crosslinking agent and at least one surfactant.
7. The two-part sizing composition according to claim 4, wherein said size composition further comprises one or more additives selected from the group consisting of pH adjusters, antioxidants, antifoaming agents, antistatic agents and non-ionic surfactants.
8. The two-part sizing composition according to claim 1, wherein said binder composition further includes at least one member selected from the group consisting of a film forming agent, a crosslinking agent and at least one surfactant.
9. The two-part sizing composition according to claim 8, wherein said binder composition further includes at least one member selected from the group consisting of lubricants and antistatic agents.

10. The two-part sizing composition according to claim 1, wherein said reinforcing fiber material is selected from the group consisting of A-type glass, C-type glass, E-type glass, S-type glass and derivatives thereof.

11. A reinforcing fiber product comprising one or more strands of a reinforcing fiber material coated first with a size composition and then with a binder composition that includes a copolymer or a derivative thereof, said copolymer being formed from maleic anhydride and at least one other monomer copolymerizable therewith selected from the group consisting of butadiene and ethylene-ethylacrylate.

12. The reinforcing fiber product of claim 11, wherein said size composition comprises one or more coupling agents.

13. The reinforcing fiber product of claim 12, wherein said size composition further comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of at least one lubricant and at least one wetting agent.

14. The reinforcing fiber product of claim 11, wherein said binder composition further includes at least one member selected from the group consisting of a film forming agent, a crosslinking agent and at least one surfactant.

15. The reinforcing fiber product of claim 11, wherein said reinforcing fiber material is selected from the group consisting of A-type glass, C-type glass, E-type glass, S-type glass and derivatives thereof.

16. The reinforcing fiber product of claim 11, wherein said reinforcing fiber product is in the form of a densified pellet.

17. A reinforced composite article comprising a plurality of reinforcing fiber materials sized with a two-part sizing composition including:

a size composition, and

a binder composition including a copolymer or a derivative thereof, said copolymer being formed from maleic anhydride and at least one other monomer copolymerizable therewith selected from the group consisting of butadiene and ethylene-ethylacrylate.

18. The reinforced composite article of claim 17, wherein said size composition comprises one or more coupling agents.

19. The reinforced composite article of claim 18, wherein said size composition further comprises one or more members selected from the group consisting of at least one lubricant and at least one wetting agent.

20. The reinforced composite article of claim 17, wherein said binder composition further includes at least one member selected from the group consisting of a film forming agent, a crosslinking agent and at least one surfactant.